

HOPE & HARMONY

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MARY ELIZABETH BAPTIST CHURCH

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WELCOME!

The mornings are feeling crisp and sunset is creeping earlier every day. Fall is definitely around the corner. As we anticipate fall with beautiful leaves and cooler weather, we look back on summer at MEBC.

We kicked off summer with VBS in June, hosted community fun days, and homecoming. Most excitingly, we had a large number of baptisms. During the months of June, July and August there were **14 baptisms!** The Lord is doing significant work through MEBC, and we are so blessed to be a part of it!

This issue will reflect on summer at MEBC and call attention to a special area of ministry. Thank you for continuing to engage in our church and community. We welcome any suggestions for content, or if anyone would like to contribute please do not hesitate to contact us or talk with Liz.



SUMMER AT MEBC

If you happened to be around Mary Elizabeth between June 8 and June 12th, you couldn't miss the excitement of VBS 2025! The theme this year was Magnified, and we were reminded that the power of God's love can be seen in the smallest of things. What a blessing it was to see so many children worshipping God in song and dance each night!

This was the first year that prayer prompts were provided in preparation for VBS, and the Lord answered them impressively. We had a record registration of 207 children and adults! There were numerous professions of faith, and a few people re-committed their lives to Jesus. The children were incredibly motivated to bring change as an offering to benefit the NC Baptist Children's Home. \$2,532 was raised during VBS! It was wonderful to see the children sharing freely of their blessings with children in need.

We would like to extend a special thank you to all the VBS workers, teachers, recreation leaders, music leaders, cooks and kitchen staff, and assistants. A special shout-out to Teresea, our VBS director for over 30 years!





SUMMER AT MEBC (CONT)

MEBC hosted a Family Fun Day in August as a summer send-off. The kids, and a few adults, had a blast with the slip-n-slide and foam cannon! There were games, water balloons, and homemade ice cream. There was a special Wednesday night service to celebrate return to school with ice cream, games, and a special moment of prayer for the children, teachers, and other staff as they begin a new year.

Finally, MEBC's 102nd homecoming was held with a special service and wonderful pot-luck lunch. It is always wonderful to see past and present members engaging in fellowship to celebrate our church's rich history and a future of promises that God has in store for us.

MEBC was buzzing with activity and the presence of the Holy Spirit this summer. The Lord has promised in 2 Corinthians 9:6, Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Our church is sowing seeds of faith and fellowship in our community, and the Lord has allowed us to reap generously.

CELEBRATING BAPTISMS

During the months of June, July, and August we had 14 baptisms at MEBC! What a wonderful display of growing faith in our community. It was a special blessing that many of those baptisms were a result of seeds being planted by parents, families, and teachers. Several professions of faith happened at VBS.

We praise the Lord that he has added to his flock. We pray that these public professions serve to glorify God. We pray that as a congregation we support these new believers in their growth in their walk with Jesus.



"YOU WERE BURIED WITH HIM THROUGH BAPTISM AND RAISED WITH HIM THROUGH FAITH IN THE POWER OF GOD, WHO RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD".
COLOSSIANS 2:12



CELEBRATING BAPTISMS (CONT)



SUMMER BAPTISMS

EMMA CLAIRE S
KHLOE S
JONAH C
EMMA S
GABE C
PALYN M
CAYLEE D
WESTIN M
DEVIN G
WYATT L
LOWIE L
JEAN S
AUSTIN M
DESNITY M





REVERSE THE STATISTIC

BY STACEY CARTER

September is Deaf Awareness month. With our church having a deaf ministry, it is important to raise our awareness about the deaf. It is estimated there are over 70 million deaf people in the world, and only 2% have heard the gospel. Unfortunately, there are only a few churches that minister to this community. Fortunately, at MEBC we are one of the churches that do minister to the deaf.

Rev. Nathan Carter, our Deaf pastor, is actively involved in reaching out to the deaf community within Mary Elizabeth and out in the world. Rev. Nathan attended Tri-State School of Theology for the Deaf which is under Gardner-Webb University. Tri-State provides classes taught by people who use American Sign Language.

Nathan uses the knowledge he received at Tri-State and his personal relationship with Jesus to help reach out to the 98% of the deaf population that are lost.

Zoom is one of the resources he uses to reach out, and God is moving through this too! Rev. Nathan teaches Bible Studies on Zoom, and people join from all over NC, Minnesota, Florida and more!

On NC Baptist's website: ncbaptist.org, it states, "Deaf Ministry promotes spiritual growth among the deaf in North Carolina through training opportunities for pastors, ministry leaders and church interpreters. Together in Christ Conference, the North Carolina Baptist Conference of the Deaf and the Deaf Youth Retreat are resources for spiritual growth."

There are many opportunities within NC and more, and Nathan and his family are actively involved in many of these. Rev. Nathan is NCBCD's president, and worked for many years at Deaf Youth Retreat at Caraway.

He asks us to also pray for DeafQuake in Alabama, the oldest and largest Deaf Christian Camp in the US. A local news station covered this camp this year ([click here to watch the clip](#)) and it's exciting that not only deaf awareness is raised, but His name is raised too! Join us in prayer for the opportunities we have to reach out to the lost deaf people. Continue to pray with us about the 98% who have not heard the Gospel, and to have that statistics reversed!



AN OPPORTUNITY THROUGH IMB

A church member recently received an email, and felt lead to disseminate the information to the congregation. I was struck when I saw the specific population this mission was targeting: lost deaf people. God's timing is always right! I had already received the article written by Stacey about the need to reach the 98% of deaf that are lost, and this member shared an opportunity to share the gospel to the deaf internationally.

The 2025 Deaflympics will be held in Tokyo, Japan from November 15 to November 26. The International Mission Board (IMB) is raising funds to send missionaries to be present throughout the event, provide materials including pins and tracts, and share online evangelism.

According to the email received by our church member, "A generous partner has offered a \$25,000 Matching Challenge — just for first-time donors to the IMB." This is a unique opportunity for us to reverse the statistic at an international level.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
THE IMB WEBSITE - PROJECTS
OR [CLICK HERE](#)

"How can they call
on the one they
have not believed
in?

How can they
believe in the one
of whom they have
not heard?

How can they hear
without someone
preaching to
them?"

Romans 10:14

FALL

UPCOMING*



- BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST
 - SEPT 28TH, 8:00 AM
- MISSIONS BBQ
 - OCT 4TH, 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM
- OCC SPAGHETTI SUPPER
 - OCT 19TH, 5:30 PM
- PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY
 - OCT 26TH
- TRUNK OR TREAT & FALL FESTIVAL
 - OCT 31ST, 6:00 PM FOR SET-UP
 - 6:30 PM FOR ATTENDEES

*CLICK THE EVENT FOR MORE INFO & SHARABLE FLYER

GOOD FOR THE SOUL

A doctor made a house call to a patient he had not seen before. As he was preparing to leave, the patient said, "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side."

Very quietly, the doctor said, "I don't know..."

"You don't know? You're a Christian man, and don't know what's on the other side?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door; on the other side came a sound of scratching and whining. As he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness.

Turning to the patient the doctor said, "Did you notice my Dog? He's never been in this house before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear.

I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing...

I know my Master is there and that is enough."

WISDOM CORNER

"How can they call on the one they have not believed in? How can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? How can they hear without someone preaching to them?"

Romans 10:14



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND INTEREST WITHIN OUR CHURCH & COMMUNITY. PLEASE FORWARD OUR NEWSLETTER TO A FRIEND! IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER OR HAVE CONTENT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE FEATURED PLEASE CONTACT US AT: MEBC3703@GMAIL.COM